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Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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USDEL SECRETARY FOR CARTER FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652:N/A

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SUBJECT:PRESS MATERIAL

NO. 25

HEREWITH FULL TEXT DAVID BINDER ARTICLE FROM SATURDAY,
FEB 19 NEW YORK TIMES

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HEADLINE: "MORE HEADS OF STATE REPORTED TO HAVE RECEIVED
CIA PAYMENTS"

BEGIN TEXT

IN ADDITION TO MAKING CLANDESTINE CASH PAYMENTS TO KING
HUSSEIN OF JORDAN, THE US, THROUGH THE CIA, HAS GIVEN

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CASH DIRECTLY TO A NUMBER OF OTHER FOREIGN LEADERS IN
RETURN FOR FAVORS OVER THE YEARS, INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS
SAID TODAY.

THOSE LISTED AS PAST RECIPIENTS INCLUDED PRESIDENTS
CHIANG KAI-SHEK OF THE NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT ON TAIWAN,
RAMON MAGSAYSAY OF THE PHILIPPINES, SYNGMAN RHEE OF SOUTH
KOREA, SESE SEKO MOBUTU OF ZAIRE, EDUARDO FREI MONTALVO
OF CHILE AND NGO DINH DIEM OF SOUTH VIETNAM.

IN ADDITION, THE OFFICIALS SAID, CASH PAYMENTS HAD BEEN
MADE FOR VARIOUS PERIODS TO LUIS ECHEVERRIA ALVAREZ WHEN
HE WAS INTERIOR MINISTER OF MEXICO, CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ
WHEN HE WAS INTERIOR MINISTER OF VENEZUELA, GEN. PHAO
SRIYANOND WHEN HE WAS POLICE CHIEF OF THAILAND AND
HOLDEN ROBERTO, LEADER OF THE NATIONAL FRONT FOR THE
LIBERATION OF ANGOLA.

"YOU NAME 'EM AND THEY GOT MONEY," SAID A FORMER US
AMBASSADOR FAMILIAR WITH THE CLANDESTINE PAYMENTS.

MR ROBERTO, FOR EXAMPLE, RECEIVED AN ANNUAL RETAINER OF
$10,000 FROM THE CIA FROM 1961 UNTIL THE CONCLUSION
OF THE ANGOLAN CIVIL WAR LAST YEAR IN RETURN FOR SUPPLYING
INTELLIGENCE REPORTS TO THE AGENCY. "IT WAS WHAT WE
CALLED 'LOOK-IN MONEY,'" AN AGENCY OFFICIAL RECALLED.

HARRISON M. SYMMES, WHO WAS AMBASSADOR TO JORDAN FROM
1967 TO 1970, SAID HE HAD LONG OPPOSED OVERALL US POLICY
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TOWARD JORDAN, WHICH HE FOUND TO BE OPPOSED TO THE "DYNAMIC
FORCES" OF THE ARAB WORLD, BUT ADDED THAT HE WAS NOT
OPPOSED TO COVERT PAYMENTS AS SUCH.

THE PRACTICE OF MAKING CLANDESTINE PAYMENTS TO FOREIGN
LEADERS IS PROBABLY AS OLD AS THE INTELLIGENCE PROFESSION
ITSELF, ACCORDING TO STUDENTS OF ESPIONAGE.

WHILE NEITHER CONFIRMING NOR DENYING THE REPORTS OF PAYMENTS
TO KING HUSSEIN, RAY S. CLINE, A FORMER DEPUTY DIRECTOR
OF THE CIA SAID:

"I FIND IT SOMEWHAT HYPOCRITICAL OR NAIVE TO ASSUME IT
WRONG FOR THE US TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
TO FRIENDLY POLITICAL LEADERS OVERSEAS WHO ARE WILLING
IN RETURN TO PROVIDE INFORMATION BEARING ON OUR SECURITY
AS WELL AS THEIR SECURITY."

"I REGARD IT AS A MORALLY DEFENSIBLE PHILOSOPHY OF COVERT

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POLITICAL ACTION," MR. CLINE CONCLUDED.

A RETIRED AGENCY OFFICIAL FAMILIAR WITH THE COVERT PAYMENTS SAID: "IT IS MOSTLY OLD STUFF GOING BACK TO THE 1940'S AND 1950'S WHEN PEOPLE WERE POOR."

IN THE CASE OF THE CIA AND JORDAN THE PRACTICE BEGAN IN 1957 AFTER BRITAIN WITHDREW FROM POLITICAL AND MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM.

KING HUSSEIN'S FATHER, KING ABDULLAH, HAD BEEN A RECIPIENT

OF CLANDESTINE BRITISH PAYMENTS FROM THE TIME HE WAS AN EMIR UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION IN 1922 UNTIL HIS ASSASSI-NATION IN 1951. BRITISH PAYMENTS CONTINUED TO KING HUSSEIN.

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END TEXT

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TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, US, NEW YORK TIMES, CIA, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (BINDER, DAVID)
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